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High School Helps Train Teen-Agers for Life Work

VARIETY OF SUBJECTS DESIGNED TO MEET INTERESTS OF MANY STUDENTS

When grown-ups ask the space-gun and pigtail set what they want to be when they grow up, the sky is likely to be the limit of their ambitions.

Plenty of youthful space-gunners want to be pilots, when the pigtail set may enthuse over being a nurse, or maybe an airline stewardess.

As little bodies get bigger, little minds also take in more information and many of them change their ideas about what they want to be.

By the time they get to high school, many youngsters have completely changed their minds about what they want to do, and some just don't know.

That's where the program offered at Torrance High School helps out, or tries to.

The program of the school is designed to offer courses to interest everybody — even the hopeful bride.

Designed to help teacher-counselors try to help students work out scholastic, vocational, and personal problems.

Even before the eager, bewildered freshman wanders into the halls of THS, administrators are planning to help him decide what he wants to take.

School representatives brief eighth graders on the various aspects of high school, and teachers work with students and parents in trying to set up a satisfactory class schedule.

Double Period Serves The old home room system is gone and has been replaced by a double period class in language arts (English) and social studies, with the teacher acting as an advisor to the students.

As a friend as well as teacher, the instructor tries to help the student adjust to his new school home, and to help him select the right courses toward whatever path he has chosen.

When problems of discipline come up, teachers work with the student in settling the situation, consulting the school psychologist if necessary.

The district follows a general policy of trying to help the student, rather than turning him over to the police.

Course Continue This combined social-English

class is continued through the junior, with teachers of this course, continuing to act as counselors. An attempt is made to contact parents at least once each year to discuss the student's problems.

At the same time, these combined classes discuss the problems of the student, people, community and world in general, as well as general social studies and English work.

Certain subjects, required by state law, are included in every student's program. Of the total requirements, 130 of the 220 units needed for graduation are taken by each student.

Electives Allowed The remaining 90 hours are electives. Students can make a choice of what they want to take, depending on what they want to be.

Students planning to go to college will emphasize certain subjects, while students planning to enter shop or business work or just get married will emphasize others.

Included in everybody's program are eight semesters of physical education, six of Eng-

lish, eight of social studies, and two each of math and science.

Electives may include music and art, foreign languages, homemaking, business education, industrial arts, or military courses through the California Cadet Corps.

Young Writers at Work Elective subjects in social studies include journalism and work on the "TNT" student newspaper; speech and oratorical competition; drama and work in plays; in addition to regular work in history, geography, English, and related subjects.

Math includes subjects from algebra to solid geometry, while science includes such things as chemistry, physics, and biology. Musically inclined Tartars can play in the band or orchestra or can sing in one of the glee clubs of the choir. Others can listen to music in music appreciation classes.

All types of drawing, ceramics, and crafts are included in art work. Spanish, French, and Latin are offered as foreign languages.

Even the prospective bride is included in homemaking courses, with special class in house-keeping arts—sewing and cooking—for her. Other classes in sewing and cooking also are taught.

Industrial arts courses include woodshop work, machine shop, metal work, drafting, and a special course for the stage crews.

Military minded boys can enroll in the California Cadet Corps.

2nd High School Great Benefit, Principal Says

What effect will the opening of the North Torrance High School this coming fall have on the program of Torrance High School?

Aside for the obvious fact that double sessions would be eliminated, with another period added to the day, Principal Bruce Wagner believed there would also be the following benefits:

1. Because of the added period, students would be able to take more electives. This would allow them to take courses for enjoyment or for personal benefit. An increased demand for such courses as music, art, and homemaking is anticipated.

2. Students would have more time for discussion of problems with teachers. This has been somewhat curtailed because many students catch buses and have to leave right after school.

3. Students would have free noon hours for socializing—in clubs and meeting with their friends. The present schedule has cut down club activities somewhat.

New Grade School For Lomita Being Planned

Blueprints for construction of a new elementary school plant in the Lomita area, have been completed and Superintendent Claude L. Reeves of the Los Angeles City Board of Education asked that they be approved.

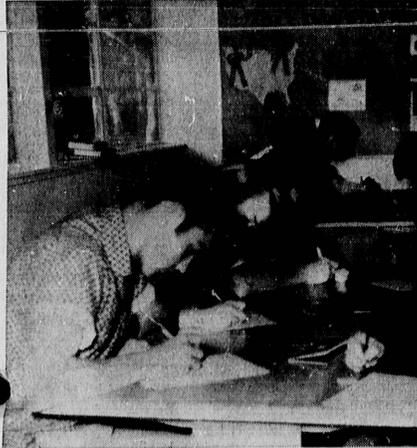
He said the new unit is known



ROUND AND ROUND IT GOES . . . Jerry Matthews and Dennis Patterson work on wooden bowls at lathes in the woodshop at the high school. In both wood and metal shops, boys work on projects ranging in size from book ends to tables.



TORCH WORKERS . . . Making plans for the 1955 Torch, Torrance High School annual, are Connie Walton, Bob Harris, Mary Lou Sasse, and Joan Blackman. The book contains hundreds of pictures of students and their activities during the year.



SWEATING IT OUT . . . Part of any educational system is the examination. Shown working about the answers to the latest test are (first table) Teri Dallandorfer, Judy Stolley, Doug Irvine, and Bob Quam.



A CHEMISTRY PROBLEM . . . Joan Laskaris studies the directions for a chemical experiment in a science class. Physics, chemistry, biology, and other subjects are included in the science curriculum in the high school.



'MAYBE THIS IS A GOOD BOOK' . . . Linda Halberg browses through some of the books in the Torrance High School library, which includes books for recreational reading also. At right is Kendall Baker, student assistant.



READY FOR THE KILN . . . Getting a number of bowls and other ceramic pieces ready for baking in the kiln is art student Jack Bolton. Work in the classes covers a variety of work, ranging from drawing to leather and craft specialties.



AND AWAY IT GOES . . . Getting ready for a long drive is golfer Norene Albertson. Girls in physical education compete in many sports, depending on the season, and receive instruction in golf, folk dancing, and other athletics.



SUDS IN YOUR EYE . . . Bill Wright gets soaped up for a shower after physical education class at the high school. Daily showers are required of all students in athletics, and are part of health school.



LEARNING TO SEW . . . Making their own clothes in homemaking classes are these girls. Shown sewing (left to right) are Dee Dwyer, Albee Tibbet, and Vicki Vaughn, while Elaine Vasquez is ironing a finished garment. Girls also study cooking and kitchen arts. One course is designed especially for prospective brides, with emphasis on household activities.

Torrance High Band in Music Festival Win

The Torrance High School Band attended the district Music Festival at Compton Senior High March 25 and 26, where they performed with 36 other Junior and Senior High School Bands. The Torrance Band received one superior and two excellent ratings. They played "Three American Folk Songs," by Ellie Seisnigmeister; Prelude and Pique in D minor, by Bach; and "The Toulon Overture."

Some comments made by the judges were "A very musical performance. This conductor is very sensitive to dynamic levels and nuances, bravo. This is a very excellent selection of music," stated Mr. Rush, head director of music at S.C. "Ed Wells another of the judges made this statement, 'A very confident, masterful interpretation of Bach, a difficult feat with a band. Three very difficult numbers, very well played.'"

Receiving a rating of superior for their solos and ensembles were Bob Wyatt on trumpet, Dan Buckley on saxophone, Jack Johnston on Clarinet, Sally Bridgeman on violin, and a clarinet quartet.

Receiving a rating of excellent were, Gray Rippstein on trombone, Jim Tompson on trombone, Wayne Evenson on French horn, Lee Tussing on drum, alto saxophone duet and clarinet duet with Jack Johnston and Dan Buckley, a clarinet duet with Roy Kato and Jack Johnston, a brass sextet, a brass quartet, and a woodwind ensemble. Joan Vachalek on violin received a rating of good.

as the 223rd Street School, at 1123 W. 223rd St., Lomita, and cost has been estimated at \$354,000.

Outside Clubs Offer Many Activities to THS Students

High school is a time to have fun as well as study, and Torrance High School students try to do both.

In addition to regular classes, which modern theory holds should be designed for interest and practicality, clubs and various other activities are designed to help the younger set let off steam.

Drama classes and school plays are offered to young thespians, while prospective journalists get practice in journalism classes putting out the school newspaper. Some students work on the staff of the annual.

Others toot away in the band or orchestra, while still others sing in the choir or glee club.

On the athletic fields, boys compete in various classroom sports, while others join in football, track, basketball, and baseball after school.

After-school activities include a number of clubs—the Tartar Knight, Tartar Ladies, Scholarship Society, Varsity Club, French Club, Spanish Club, Key Club, Thespian Society, Quill Scroll, Girls Athletic Assn., Junior Red Cross, Rally Club, Future Business Leaders, and Future Teachers Club.



HELPING THE STUDENTS . . . Advice on what program and classes would be best for each student is given by counselors at the High School. Miss C. Rous, girls' advisor, goes over Yolanda Goldsmith's class schedule with her to see that she is taking the correct courses for graduation.



COUNTING THE TICKETS . . . Tom Smolin and Cynthia Easley, president of the Tartar Knights and Ladies respectively, count tickets for a forthcoming school activity. The two schools are primarily school service groups.



TOOTING AWAY . . . Tooting away in one of the High School music classes is Gary Rippstein. Music classes include various groups, ranging from band and orchestra to the two glee clubs and choir and music appreciation classes.